(c) and (d) Various issues concerning the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) policy have been considered by the Empowered Group of Ministers (EGOM) and it has been decided that the pending applications for SEZs may be processed for in principle and formal approvals and notifications subject to the condition that the State Governments would not undertake any compulsory acquisition of land for such SEZs. Further, it has been decided to fix the upper limit of the area required for multi product SEZs at 5000 hectares with the provision that the State Government may prescribed a lower limit and to fix the minimum processing area limit uniformly at 50% for multi product SEZs as well as sector specific SEZs.

Industrial parks in the country

4442. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:
SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of industrial parks set up in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether Government are contemplating to set up more industrial parks in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the industrial parks have lost their relevance after the launch of new schemes for industrial development; and

(e) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) State-wise approval to developers of Industrial Park during each of the last three years are give in the enclosed Statement (See below).

(b) and (c) The Industrial Park Scheme, 2002 is an ongoing Scheme. As per the Scheme, Government do not set up Industrial Parks, instead approval is provided to the developer of Industrial Park to avail Income Tax benefits under section 80 lA of Income Tax Act, 1961.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. Applications are being continuously received and considered as per the Scheme. The Scheme provides for deduction?, in calculating the tax payable, under the Income Tax Act, 1961, on profits of industrial undertakings or enterprises, engaged in infrastructure development for a period of 10 consecutive years, in a block of fifteen assessment years after the commencment of business. As the Scheme envisages promoting quality indusrial infrastructure, which is an essential component of industrialization, it is being foundattrative by the developers.

Statement

State-wise Approvals under the Industrial Park Scheme during the Last three years

Sl. No.	State	Number of approvals given			
		2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8	4	8	20
2.	Gujarat	2	2	-	4
3.	Haryana	1	-	1	2
4.	Karnataka	14	13	7	34
5.	Maharashtra	26	17	4	47
6.	Rajasthan	-	14	59	73
7.	Tamil Nadu	3	1	6	10
8.	Uttar Pradesh	1	-	1	2
9.	Uttaranchal	-	4	1	5
10.	West Bengal	2	1	1	**4**
	TOTAL :	57	56	88	201

Demand and availability of gold

†4443. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated demand and availability of gold in the country at present;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.